

What is claimed is:

1. A network-based system for intercepting real-time data feeds from external data sources, stripping the intercepted feeds of user-ordered data
5 and redirecting the stripped data to the requesting users over cooperating interfacing networks comprising:

one or more server nodes connected to the network, at least one of which is input ported for receiving data feeds from the external data sources and output ported for rendering data stripped from the feeds to requesting
10 users;

one or more instances of software distributed to the one or more server nodes, the software for parsing data from the feeds received from the external data sources, converting the data to a common markup language for internal processing, and for converting user-ordered data results expressed
15 in the common markup language to appropriate interface formats for the requesting users, the software also for accepting data about users and configuration data from users interfacing with the software by way of an Internet-capable appliance and supported platform; and

a mass data storage repository accessible to the one or more server
20 nodes, the data repository for storing data stripped from feeds provided by the external data sources and for storing user profile and account data, characterized in that users subscribing to a service enabled by the system may order and receive data stripped from the data feeds provided by the external data sources in a usable presentation format personalized to each
25 user and rendered to each user through a particular cooperating interface network to the particular wireless communication device operated by individual ones of the users, the device configured for receiving the data.

2. The network-based system of claim 1, wherein the network is the Internet network.

3. The network-based system of claim 2, wherein the cooperating
5 interfacing networks include one or a combination of a paging network, a wireless network, and a wireless Internet service network.

4. The network-based system of claim 3, wherein the data feeds contained publicly oriented financial activity and news information.

10 5. The network-based system of claim 4, wherein the common markup language is eXtensible Markup Language.

15 6. The network-based system of claim 5, wherein the wireless communication devices configured for receiving the data rendered by the system are one of a one-way pager, a two-way pager, a hand-held computing device, or a Web enabled telephone.

20 7. The network-based system of claim 6, wherein the data received from external data sources is parsed and converted into eXtensible Markup Language before being converted to the appropriate data format before being rendered.

25 8. The network-based system of claim 7, wherein data rendered to users is of the form of alerts triggered through detection of specific and variable conditions associated with the data, the conditions configured into orders received from users.

9. The network-based system of claim 8, wherein data rendered to users further includes most recent real-time values associated with the requested data.

5 10. In a network-based system for intercepting real-time data feeds from external data sources, stripping the intercepted feeds of user ordered data and redirecting the stripped data to the requesting users over cooperating interfacing networks, the system having one or more server nodes connected to the network, at least one of which is input ported for receiving data feeds from external data sources and output ported for rendering data stripped from the feeds to requesting users, a software application for managing the functions of the system is provided comprising:

10 a user-interface component for interfacing with users the purpose of accepting data about users and for accepting orders from users;

15 a source-interface component for receiving data feeds from external data sources, parsing data feeds for data pertinent to user orders, and for directing the parsed data into a data repository;

20 a data-conversion component for equating data expressed in formats used by external sources to a common markup language for internal processing and for equating data results expressed in the common markup language to appropriate data formats used by receiving devices operated by requesting users;

a data-transport component for transporting processed data to requesting users for the output of the system; and

25 a database management component for managing database operations including associating appropriate data parsed through order to appropriate requesting users, characterized in a users interacting with the interface component of the software application may subscribe to the service enabled by the software, create a personal portfolio, and configure

data alert and data presentation orders through the interface component for subsequent execution, processing, and rendering performed by the remaining components of the software application.

5 11. The software application of claim 10, wherein the user-interface component is accessible through the Internet using an Internet-capable computing device, or via wireless data networks connected to the Internet.

10 12. The software application of claim 11, wherein the Internet-capable computing device is a personal computer.

13. The software application of claim 11, wherein the Internet-capable computing device is a hand-held computer.

15 14. The software application of claim 11, distributed to a single server node in the case of one server node.

15. The software application of claim 11, distributed to more than one server node in the case of more server nodes.

20 16. The software application of claim 12, wherein data about users includes account data, contact data, device data, and portfolio data.

25 17. The software application of claim 16, wherein orders from users include conditional alert orders, time-sensitive alert orders, and event-driven alert orders.

18. The software application of claim 17, wherein the source-interface component cooperates with the data-conversion component to affect data conversion before directing the parsed data into the data repository.

5 19. The software application of claim 18, wherein the user-interface component cooperates with the data-conversion component to affect data conversion to data about users before storing the data and to order data before storing and initiating execution of the data orders.

10 20. The software application of claim 19, wherein the data-conversion component converts data results from the common markup language to the appropriate data formats before initiating the data-transport component for delivering the data.

15 21. The software application of claim 20, wherein orders from users received through the user-interface component result in periodic data pushes to the device of the requesting user.

20 22. Software application of claim 21, wherein orders are received through bi-directional interface with the data-transport component, the orders comprising on-demand orders.

25 23. A method for receiving real-time data feeds from data sources accessible through data connection, parsing and stripping the feeds for data portions for redirection to requesting users connected by data link comprising steps of:

(a) receiving an order for data from a user, the user sending the order through the data link;

(b) parsing a data feed identified in the received order, the data feed continually tapped by the service and the parsing performed to identify data in the feed that is requested by the order;

(c) stripping the portions of data from the data feed according to instructions contained in the order;

(d) associating the stripped portions of a data to the author of the order for the data; and

(e) transporting the requested data to the user back over the data link.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein the data connection to the external sources comprises the Internet network and the data link comprises a wireless data link facilitated by a wireless service carrier.

25. The method of claim 24 wherein in step (a), the data link is one of a wireless data link, a pager network data link, or a wireless Internet data link.

26. The method of claim 24 wherein in step (a), the order is an on-demand order initiated through one of a one-way pager, a two-way pager, a hand-held computing device, or the Web enabled wireless telephone.

27. The method of claim 26 wherein in step (b), the data feed contains market activity information and the order requests the most current activity values associated with specific instruments reported by the feed.

28. A method of claim 27 wherein in step (b), the data feed contains market news information and the order requests the most current news summaries as reported by the feed.

29. The method of claim 26, wherein in step (c), instructions contained in the order pertain to one or more instruments generic to the data feed.

30. The method of claim 26, wherein steps (a)-(e) are repeated a plurality of times during one session on behalf of one user engaging in the session.

31. A method for generating and transmitting user alerts associated with current states and conditions of data contained in real-time data feeds intercepted on behalf of users by a network-based data interception and redirection service comprising steps of:

(a) receiving at the service a configuration order sent by a user the order identifying specific alert criteria and received by the service over a data link connecting the service to the user;

(b) monitoring one or more real-time data feeds identified in the configuration order received at step (a), the monitoring performed to identify the data in the feed which is identified in the configuration order and also the current state and condition of the identified data;

(c) comparing the alert criteria specified in the configuration order to the identified state and condition of the associated data; and

(d) upon determining that the current state and condition of the associated data meets the alert criteria specified in the configuration order, generating and transmitting an associated alert or alerts to the author of the configuration order.

32. The method of claim 31, wherein the network-based data interception and redirection service is implemented on Internet network.

33. The method of claim 32, wherein the data interception and redirection service utilizes interfacing wireless networks to transmit alerts to wireless devices using a push technology.

5 34. The method of claim 33 wherein in step (a), the data link connecting the service to the user is an Internet link and the device used to initiate the configuration order is a personal computer.

10 35. The method of claim 34 wherein in step (b), the real-time data feeds report traded financial instruments and current market states and conditions of those instruments.

36. The method of claim 35 wherein in step (b), monitoring of the feeds occurs periodically has specified by the configuration order.

15 37. The method of claim 36 wherein in step (c), comparison of alert criteria to state and condition of associated data is performed at each periodic interval of monitoring.

20 38. The method of claim 37 wherein in step (d), transmission of a generated alert or alerts is conducted through an interfacing wireless network to a configured wireless device adapted to receive the alert or alerts.

25 39. The method of claim 38 wherein in step (d), the wireless device is a one-way paging device and interfacing network is a pager network.

40. The method of claim 38 wherein in step (d), the wireless device is a two-way paging device.

